WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Aviation projects for Orissa

3045. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Civil Aviation Projects taken up in Orissa at the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the progress of the work as on date;

(c) whether the works on these projects are going on a per the schedule;

(d) if so, the amount spent on these projects; and

(e) the total amount sanctioned for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (e)* Work has been taken up at Bhubaneswar airport in Orissa, as follows:-

(1) Construction of New Terminal Building, New Apron Link Taxi-track has been completed as per schedule at a cost of Rs.17.77 Crores.

(2) A New Fire Station at a cost of Rs.87,18,000 was constructed against the sanctioned amount of Rs.1.10 Crores. Work has been completed in November, 1997 as per schedule.

(3) 96% work relating to extension of runway to 9000 ft. has been completed. As against the sanctioned amount of Rs.12.62 Crores, a sum of Rs.10.33 Crores has been spent to far.

Inconvenience caused to passengers due to delayed flights

3046. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ministers' stooges still think this is a banana republic" which appeared in the Economic Times dated the 21st June, 2001;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future so that passengers are not put to unnecessary and avoidable inconvenience?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On 20th June, 2001 there was an incident at Lucknow Airport at the time of departure of Indian Airlines flight IC-805 which was scheduled to leave Lucknow at 1720 hours. One passenger Shri P. Mishra, who claimed to be on the protocol staff of the Minister of Communications insisted that the flight should wait till the arrival of the Minister. The airlines staff tried to make him see reasons. But he was obstinate and continued to insist that the flight should wait. He was, therefore, off loaded with the help of the security staff. Because of this incident, the flight was delayed by about 50 minutes.

This is, however, a isolated incident Indian Airlines makes every effort to see that passengers are not put to unnecessary and avoidable inconvenience.

Concessions offered by IATA to Indian Travel Agents

3047. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that top level officials of International Air Travellers Association have met him in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the main subjects discussed in the meeting;

(c) whether International Air Travellers Association officials have promised to extend a lot of concessions to Indian travel agents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the concession offered by International Air Travellers Association officials would benefit the Indian tourism and aviation industry?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Representatives of International Air Transport